

Asotin County Conservation District

Other Accomplishments

- ACCD provided over \$675,000 in cost-share to install BMPs, including riparian and cross fences, water developments, CREP projects, direct seed, tree planting and watering, irrigation efficiencies, fish passage and screens, and livestock projects.
- The Asotin County Community Wildfire Protection Plan was completed. The plan identifies priorities for funding critical projects that will reduce the negative impacts of wildfires.
- Working with the Asotin County Weed Board and landowners, 90 acres damaged by wildfire were seeded to reduce soil erosion and decrease noxious weed invasion.
- The Rapid Response Weed Control Project targeting new infestations treated more than 250 acres.
- ACCD has developed a tree-watering program to increase survivability of trees in their first few critical years. Watering is more cost efficient than continuing to replant year after year.

2008 Feature Accomplishment

Small Acreage Program

Resource Challenge

Recently, Asotin County acreage that had been used for agriculture surrounding the urbanized areas has been subdivided and sold into small parcels. Many people have purchased these properties with the intent of living close to amenities while still having a country lifestyle including raising livestock, primarily horses. Many landowners did not know how to properly manage the land and resources, which caused problems for their property, the neighbors and natural resources.

Project Summary and Results

The Asotin County Conservation District (ACCD) created a Small Acreage Program to address this challenge and work with landowners by providing technical assistance and cost-share. Cost-share is provided to install windbreaks, water developments, and cross fences, and to plant grass and improve heavy use areas. Workshops are conducted to educate landowners on ways to adopt management techniques to meet long-term conservation improvement goals. The first workshop addressed windbreak installation and maintenance and the second focused on pasture health including planting, proper grazing methods and weed control. More than 30 landowners have shown an interest in the program and are improving the management of their property and natural resources.

Key Project Partners

Asotin County CD, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service, WSU Extension, Asotin County Noxious Weed Board, Washington State Conservation Commission and Private Landowners



Windbreak installed in March



Windbreak five months later

Contact Information

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Board of Supervisors:
Keith Ausman, Chair
Dan Sangster, Vice-Chair
Jerry Hendrickson, Auditor
Ron Scheibe, Secretary
Rich Witters, Member

More Work To Do

- Develop a Firewise program to create individual fuel reduction and forest health plans for landowners.
- Increase outreach & education efforts, especially targeting landowners that have not utilized District programs in the past.
- Create a Land Stewardship Guide to provide landowners with basic tips to properly manage their property as well as provide them with contact information for agencies that can provide assistance.
- Continue putting good conservation projects on the ground.